

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for detecting a type of one of plurality of devices attached to a graphics machine, each device being one of at least a first type and a second type, the method comprising:

detecting at a controller the type of device attached to or to be attached to the machine, the controller being capable of preadjusting the device or machine as a function of the detection.

2. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the device includes a type identifier, and an identifier reader can be connected to the controller.

3. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the controller sends a control signal to the device as a function of the detection.

4. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the devices can be added or removed and replaced with other devices of other types.

5. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the devices are feeders for a binding line.

6. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the devices are printing press components.

7. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising running a self-test check upon each turn-on of the machine to determine which devices are connected to the machine.

8. A graphics machine comprising:

a controller;

a first device connected to the controller, the first device being categorizable as one of at least a first type and a second type, the controller detecting the type of the first device; and

a memory accessible by the controller, the memory storing information regarding the first type and the second type.

9. The machine as recited in claim 8 wherein the first device includes a type identifier, and the machine further comprises an identifier reader connected to the controller.

10. The machine as recited in claim 8 wherein the controller automatically adjusts the first device as a function of the information.

11. The machine as recited in claim 8 wherein the information is stored as a table.

12. The machine as recited in claim 8 wherein the first device is connected to the controller via an electrical plug, a fixed transmission line or a wireless connection.

13. The machine as recited in claim 8 wherein the graphics machine includes a second device connected to the controller, the second device being one of the first type and the second type.

14. The machine as recited in claim 8 wherein the first device is modular.

15. The machine as recited in claim 8 wherein the controller has a plurality of inputs, each input identifying a particular location of the machine.

16. The machine as recited in claim 9 wherein the type identifier is a plug having a input power pin and at least one other pin, the first type or second type being identified by a connection between the power pin and the other pin.

17. The machine as recited in claim 16 wherein the input power pin and the other pin are separated by a resistor.

18. The machine as recited in claim 16 wherein the at least one other pin includes two other pins, the type being determined by the presence or absence of power at the other pins when power is supplied to the input power pin.

19. The machine as recited in claim 10 wherein the type identifier supplies a digital signal.